Shares of Kerala based public sector units for private sector

1300. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether shares of Kerala based Public Sector units of Central Government are proposed to be made available to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the percentage of equity, which will be made available to the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir, A part of the shareholding of Government of India in two of the five public sector enterprises who have their registered office situated in Kerala, have been disinvested in favour of public sector financial/investment institutions and mutual funds.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Setting up of joint ventures in India by Germany

1301. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the President of the Federation of German Industries, Mr. Heinrich Weiss, in his recent Press Conference in Delhi has stated that Germany was ready to set up Joint Ventures in India;

(b) if so, what are the areas agreed upon; and

(c) whether there is any difficulty for transfer of dual technology to India in some areas as reported in his Press Conference, if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.J. KURIEN) : (a) to (c) A delegation of the Federation of German Industries (BDI) headed by its President Mr. Heinrich Weiss visted India during February 3-6, 1992 and had talks with Union Ministers, Government officials and the representatives of Indian industry. The discussions largely centred round upgrading German investment levels and technology transfer in the context of recent economic liberalisations. The possibility for mutual cooperation between the enterprises of the two countries in several areas like energy, telecommunications, chemicals, electronics, computer software etc. were also discussed.

Technology transfer arrangements are mutually agreed upon between Indian firms and foreign suppliers of technologies according to their commercial judgement. Indian companies have been receiving technology in diverse sectors from various countries and Germany has been a major source of technology and investment in India.

Closing of Public Sector Undertakings

1302. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what are the Public Sector Undertakings based in Assam which are likely to be closed down ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : None of the Public Sector Undertakings based in Assam is proposed to be closed down.